Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University

B.Sc./B.Sc.(IT)/BCA Part-I Supplementary English Textbook

# Pearls of Wisdom

**Board of Editors** 



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B.Sc./B.Sc.(IT)/BCA Part-I Supplementary English Textbook
(Semesters I & II)

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## PREFACE

Pearls of Wisdom is a collection of meaningful stories written by writers who cut across various time periods and nationalities but the common thread that holds them together is the universal values and truths of human experiences that they convey. This book would not only give the undergraduate students of science an opportunity to appreciate and enjoy literary pieces, but also introduce them to the nuances of human emotion, open their minds to multiple perspectives and also give them insight into motives that drive human action.

Literature is not only about ideas but also about experiences. As so aptly stated by Cleanth Brooks, John Thibaut Purser and Robert Penn Warren, "the truth of literature takes the form, not of abstract statement, but of concrete and dramatic presentation, which may allow us to experience imaginatively the "lived meanings of a piece of life." The stories invite students to live through the experiences of the characters in the stories and cultivate the sensitivity and sensibility to appreciate what constitutes life. Questions for exploration follow every story so that students can draw on their own experiences and develop their ideas as they share and exchange them with their classmates. It has been our endeavour to foster critical thinking skills among the students as the questions that follow each story prompt them to peel the layers of the story and look for the message and values it promotes.

The process of designing this textbook has been a joyful one and we wish to place on record our thanks to the members of the Board of Studies for their unstinting support throughout.

We remain indebted to Honourable Vice-Chancellor syllabus approved.

We gratefully acknowledge the co-operation received from the staff of the Academic Section of the University at all times in

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As that thi into th which this journey. Thanks are also due to Raghav Publishers & Distributors for defying all odds posed by Covid-19 pandemic and bringing out this anthology in time for the academic year.

As we present this textbook to our students, our only hope is that this anthology of short stories prompts them to dive deeper into the ocean of literature and collect the "pearls of wisdom" which it offers.

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Pearls of Wisdom has been so designed that it speaks to the learners' aspirations, touches a chord in them, stimulates their thinking and fills them with life-affirming wisdom. The rich selection of short stories representing a wide array of writers belonging to different time periods and nationalities would invite the learner to pause, ponder and understand themselves and those around them better. This textbook not only gives learners enough opportunities to revive their interest in reading but also invites them to critically discuss, analyze and explore the core values and arguments that each story expounds. As care has been taken to string together this variety of soul-stirring stories, it is only when the learner dives into them will s/he be able to collect the "pearls of wisdom".



